



Hound Herald

(3-67 AR Newsletter- 11 APR 2006)



SGT Moss, Flight Operations NCO, discusses the flight manifest with a Blackhawk Crew Chief



New and improved waiting area for inbound and outbound flights



LTC Valeri address (from L-R) PFC Conner, PFC Garcia, SGT Cyr, SGT Moss, and SGT Bowman before the award presentation

F CO Taking Care of Soldiers and Flights

F CO 3-67 AR has the significant task of operating the FOB Rustamiyah Flight Cell. As facilitators of the Flight Cell, the Soldiers of F CO Command Post (CP) are responsible for ensuring that personnel are manifested and put on the correct flights to various destinations in the Iraqi Theater of Operations (ITO). The Flight Cell has manifested 373 flights, since the Transfer of Authority with the 3rd Infantry Division in January 2006.

Recently, the Flight Cell/CP team, comprised of SGT Bowman, SGT Moss, SGT Cyr, PFC Connor and PFC Garcia, was recognized by LTC Valeri for their support of the Coalition Military Assistance Training Team (CMAT) at the Iraqi Military Academy. The five Soldiers were presented with a coin and a certificate of appreciation for assisting CMAT personnel execute their mission. The Flight Cell team continuously demonstrate a dedication to ensure that fellow Soldiers are well taken care of.

F CO renovated the waiting area for flights. Soldiers painted the waiting area, hung unit crests of tenant units, installed a new television with the Armed Forces Network (AFN) and added a recreation room. The Flight Cell and the waiting area are the first stop for visitors and new personnel forming people's first impression of FOB Rustamiyah. This first class operation is another great example of how F CO continues to uphold the Hounds' Standard of Excellence.



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(3-67 AR Newsletter- 12 APR 2006)



PFC Robert Mayhugh before receiving his award for being a Hound Hero.



SSG Kenneth Pugh and SSG Patrick Perkins at the IP Station



1LT Russell Anderson and LTC Ahmed discuss the Area of Operations

Hound Hero of the Week

FSC Maintenance has been plagued with a variety of maintenance issues. Specifically, the correct repair procedures for several Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck (HEMTT) inner door handle arms. PFC Robert Mayhugh has found an ingenious way to fix these deficiencies. The FSC experimented with four different alternatives, before discovering the solution of using the new M1114 single action combat door locks. This part fit flawlessly in the HEMTT truck doors. This solution has led to five HEMTT's that were previously dead lined for doors not opening properly, being fully mission capable. One truck's trash is another truck's treasure!

C CO Recons in New Baghdad

On 10 APR 06, 3/C/3-67 AR conducted an area recon in New Baghdad. This was the first time 1LT Anderson had visited New Baghdad while on a wheeled patrol. They were extremely motivated and looked forward to interacting with the local populace. The first stop on the patrol was the New Baghdad Iraqi Police Station. 1LT Russell Anderson and SSG Patrick Perkins introduced themselves to LTC Ahmed, the commander of the New Baghdad Iraqi Police Station. The relationship with LTC Ahmed and the IP's is extremely important to the success of our daily operations. The IP's provide much needed support in the C CO area of operations and keep the Copperheads up to date on any new developments. Upon leaving the IP station, 3rd Platoon familiarized themselves with the local infrastructure, particularly the mosques and churches. The overall mission was a success, and 3/C/3-67 AR looks forward to the next mission.



Hound Herald

(3-67 AR Newsletter- 13 APR 2006)



SGT Jamil Bush in front of a security bunker at the power distribution center



SPC Gregory Guinea, 1LT Edward Stoltenberg, SSG Juan Ordaz, and SGT Jamil Bush observing employees at the concrete factory



SGT James Eden receives an award for being the NCO of the week

D Co Security Continues

On 9 April 2006, Soldiers of D CO proceeded to a local power distribution center and concrete factory to assess the current security measures at these industrial facilities. The force protection and current security plan of the power distribution center were excellent. If the power distribution center were to cease or limit operation for any reason, the majority of the country of Iraq would be without a power source. Security measures are a serious concern at the concrete factory. The current trend in the rising price of concrete has led some local nationals to attempt to embezzle concrete from the factory itself. D CO talked to security officers at both places, and they were satisfied with the amount of security in place.

Hound NCO of the Week

While on route clearance, SGT James Eden of E CO positively identified an Improvised Explosive Device (IED), at an underpass outside FOB Rustamiyah. After identifying the IED, SGT Eden advised for a security standoff while waiting for the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team to arrive. His actions prevented casualties and possible loss of life. SGT Eden is a gunner on a Bradley Fighting Vehicle for E CO.



Hound Herald

(3-67 AR Newsletter- 14 APR 2006)



CPT Dave McCaughrin and some new friends.



PFC John Stobbe chats with a Soldier from the 2/2 Iraqi National Police (INP) at the District Advisory Council hall.



SGT Jamil Bush takes notes while 1SG Timothy Adkinson and SGT Brinton Haskins provide security.

HHC and CA visit bridge dwellers

On 13 April, Civil Affairs (CA) along with HHC 3-67 AR visited a small community located beneath a highway in Baghdad. The members of this community have given tips to the Hounds in the past about Improvised Explosive Device (IED) locations, helping the Hounds to secure the local area. MAJ Yarborough and the CA team checked on the health and welfare of the community. The community consists of a few families who farm crops on the side of the highway. The locals asked if the Hounds could help by building a bridge across the stream which runs through their community. The Hounds are eagerly working to help them in every way possible.

D CO talks with locals at the DAC hall

D CO started their day early on 14 April by traveling to the District Advisory Council hall to meet with local inhabitants. SGT Jamil Bush and an interpreter asked the locals how the Hounds could improve the local area. The locals were happy to talk with the patrol and were unwavering in their belief that the area was improving and that they felt safer with the Hounds patrolling the area.

On the trip back to FOB Rustamiyah, D CO witnessed an unmarked vehicle without license plates driving at an unsafe speed. D CO stopped the vehicle and searched it. Nothing suspicious was found. The passengers were undercover Iraqi Police (IP) officers in charge of security for an IP General. The interaction was friendly and the police understood why they were stopped. The IPs told 1SG Timothy Adkinson that they appreciate D CO's caution and went on their way with many "Maa Al-Salama" (goodbyes).



Hound Herald

(3-67 AR Newsletter- 15 APR 2006)



3-67th AR, Hounds of Hell Basketball Team.



The Iraqi National Basketball Team getting pumped up before the game.



LTC Mark Bertolini gave out medals to the players and a coin of appreciation to their coach

Hounds edge the Iraqi National Team

On 13 April 06, FOB Rustamiyah hosted the Iraqi National Basketball Team. The Iraqi National Basketball Team played the 3-67 AR "Hounds of Hell" team that won last year's Fort Hood Post Basketball Championship. The game was held at the gym at the Iraqi Military Academy at Rustamiyah (IMAR).

Both teams played well, and the lead swung back and forth over the course of the game. A rally late in the game finally led the Hounds team to a 72-68 victory. LTC Mark Bertolini, commander of 3-67, was pleased that the Iraqi Team came to play and presented medals to members of both teams in a brief post-game ceremony. LTC Bertolini remarked, "This is a significant event, the media always shows the violence and the bloodshed, but here are people from Iraq and the United States getting together to play a little basketball."

A/3-67 AR patrols the area that includes the Olympic Compound where the team lives and practices. CPT Dave Baer, commander of A Co, arranged the game and his company assisted with much of the preparation. CPT Baer stated, "this game was a showcase of sportsmanship and good fun that was enjoyed by all that attended. We can only hope that these events continue in the future."

After the game and awards presentation, the Iraqi team enjoyed dinner at the FOB Rustamiyah DFAC with LTC Bertolini, CPT Baer, and other leaders of the Battalion. A good time was had by all, and the spirit of sportsmanship is alive and well.



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(3-67 AR Newsletter- 15 APR 2006)





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(3-67 AR Newsletter- 16 APR 2006)



C CO stands in formation during the change of command ceremony.



LTC Mark Bertolini hands the guidon to CPT Chris Wellman.



CPT Chris Wellman at the head of the Copperhead formation.

Charlie Company Changes Command

On 15 April 06, C/3-67 AR conducted a Change of Command ceremony. The outgoing commander, CPT Gabriel Ramirez, passed the guidon to the incoming commander, CPT Christopher Wellman. LTC Mark Bertolini, CPT Ramirez, and CPT Wellman each gave a speech about the achievements of the company and how its accomplishments set the tone for its future.

CPT Ramirez assumed command of C CO in August 2004. Under his command C CO received 14 brand new M1A2 SEP tanks, conducted two Table XII gunnery qualifications and deployed to OIF 05-07. LTC Bertolini further added that C CO deployment operations were the smoothest that he had ever seen.

CPT Wellman has served in 3-67 AR for five years in a number of positions. He served as a Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer, and acting Company Commander in C CO prior to and during the Battalion's previous deployment to OIF I. After returning from the Armor Captains' Career Course, he returned to 3-67 AR where he served as the Battalion Assistant S-3. CPT Wellman stated in his speech that he looked forward to commanding C CO and maintaining the state of excellence that C CO has achieved.



Hound Herald

(3-67 AR Newsletter- 17 APR 2006)



CPT Chris Wellman and CPT Gabe Ramirez on patrol in New Baghdad



PFC John Stobbe displays his watch to children in Mashtal.



SSG Randy Freeman, PFC John Stobbe, and SGT Louis Parnell play soccer with the children.

C CO's Right Seat Ride

On 13 April 06, C CO 3-67 AR outgoing commander CPT Gabe Ramirez and CPT Chris Wellman, the incoming commander, conducted a right seat ride in New Baghdad. The mission was an area recon to familiarize CPT Wellman with C Co's Area of Operations. The most important stop was the New Baghdad Iraqi Police (IP) Station. CPT Wellman was introduced to LTC Ahmed, the IP station commander. The discussion was extremely informative and friendly as always. The topics discussed were sewage problems in New Baghdad and the security situation. LTC Ahmed assured CPT Wellman that he would continue to be an asset to the mission as he was with CPT Ramirez. C CO has conducted many joint operations with the IPs, and they hope to continue that trend as the new commander takes over the area.

C CO left on a good note as always and continued their recon through the area. They also were able to show CPT Wellman the majority of the mosques in their sector, as they are of importance to C CO's operations.

D CO has fun in Mashtal.

On April 14th, D CO went to the Mashtal neighborhood to assess the security in the area and to assure the locals that Coalition Forces wanted to help make Iraq a safer place. They stopped by a bakery that did not want to sell them bread because D CO is part of the Coalition Forces. Outside the bakery, D CO took some time to interact with the children in the neighborhood. SSG Randy Freeman, PFC John Stobbe, and SGT Louis Parnell played soccer with them, talked about what other activities they like to do, and what they did in school.



Hound Herald

(3-67 AR Newsletter- 18 APR 2006)



LTC Mark Bertolini presents a plaque to COL Maurice Sheen of the British Army.



The Hound cake for the dinner. It says, "Welcome IMAR Cadre from Hounds of 3-67 Armor".



3-67th AR leadership and IMAR Cadre prepare to have dinner

Hounds Host Dinner for IMAR Cadre

On 15 April, the 3-67 AR "Hounds of Hell" hosted a dinner for the cadre of the Iraqi Military Academy at Rustamiah (IMAR). The dinner was held in the FOB Rustamiah Dining Facility VIP room. The IMAR Cadre consists of Officers and Non Commissioned Officers from several NATO nations, to include Lithuania, Denmark, the Netherlands, the UK, Hungary, and Slovenia. They were eager to meet the Coalition Forces that provided them with security while they train the Officers of the New Iraqi Army. LTC Bertolini said that the IMAR Cadre are doing great things to allow his Battalion to accomplish their mission.

After dinner, the evening also included a trivia game which pitted the Company Commanders of 3-67 AR against a combination of the IMAR Cadre.

LTC Bertolini then presented a plaque on behalf of 3-67 AR to the IMAR Commander that read: "For your outstanding support of the 'Hounds of Hell' and the Country of Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom 05-07. The Hounds can now 'Stay in the Fight' Thanks to your hard work and dedication to the development of the Iraqi Army Officers."



Hound Herald

(3-67 AR Newsletter- 19 APR 2006)



LTC Bertolini presents SGT Stephen Leong a Battalion coin and a Certificate of Achievement.



PFC Kevin Moore receives a Battalion coin and a Certificate of Achievement from LTC Bertolini.



SSG Hector Hernandez, SPC Enrique Rodriguez, PFC Noah Crowder, SPC Randy Lerp, SGT Marco Ramirez and SPC Earl Nollen of F CO.

Hound NCO and Soldier of the Week

07-14 APR 06, SGT Stephen Leong of A CO, conducted Bradley Maintenance Services while his section still had responsibility for a checkpoint between the hours of 0030-0630. Following his mission, SGT Leong's Bradley went straight into services from 0900-1700. SGT Leong's dedication allowed his Bradley to go through services in a timely manner. This type of dedication has enabled his Bradley to make every mission.

09 April 06, PFC Kevin Moore of B CO noticed a wire running underneath the overpass in a drainage ditch, shortly after an IED attack on C CO. His initiative to notify his team leader that a secondary IED was in position, potentially saved lives, and prevented the destruction of equipment.

The Hounds of Hell are pleased to announce that the NCO and Soldier are the "Hound Heroes of the Week". The Hounds continue to accomplish their mission while winning the trust and confidence of the Iraqi people.

F CO Making a Difference

Soldiers of F CO continue to lead the way in developing innovative ways to increase survivability of Soldiers in Iraq. The most dangerous threat facing Soldiers conducting patrols in sector are the terrorist-emplaced Improvised Explosive Devices (IED). F CO Soldiers have spent countless hours designing and installing several modifications to provide additional protection to Soldiers on the battlefield. With every modification F CO Soldiers accomplish, 3-67 AR Soldiers are better protected against enemy threats.



Hound Herald

(3-67 AR Newsletter- 20 APR 2006)



CPT Drew Byrd and COL Tom Vail at the gas station in Al Amin

COL Vail out with D CO

On 18 Apr 06, COL Tom Vail, Commander of 506th RCT, joined D CO on a mission in the Al Amin neighborhood. They visited a gas station that had been a recent target of a vehicle borne improvised explosive device. CPT Byrd has increased his patrols in D CO's Area of Operations to assist the Iraqi Security Forces. COL Vail talked to local children, inspiring them to take positive action in their neighborhood. COL Vail listened to the children's dreams of becoming professional soccer players and the Mayor of Baghdad. Before leaving D Co, COL Vail stated, "You have to interact with the locals on a daily basis, that's how we will win this war."



From left to right: COL Ahmed, CPT Drew Byrd and members of the 6/2NP Brigade at the DAC Hall.

D CO Tours new NP Headquarters

On 17 April, D CO went to the District Advisory Council Hall complex to visit the new Iraqi National Police (NP) Headquarters building. CPT Drew Byrd and 1SG Timothy Adkinson met with COL Ahmed of the 6/2 NP Brigade at the headquarters. COL Ahmed shared information about future operations over a cup of chai with CPT Byrd. D CO is excited that the NP are looking forward to taking responsibility in their Area of Operations. 3-67 AR and the 6/2 NPs will continue to work together in future operations.



1SG Timothy Adkinson getting a report from SSG Randy Freeman.